INFORMATION LETTER

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NEW RATION POINT VALUES

Four Canned Fruits Raised; Reductions Made in Several Vegetables

Point changes in 21 food items—13 up, and 8 down—are shown in the Seventh Official Table of Point Values for Processed Foods, made effective September 5, by the Office of Price Administration.

In addition, point values of four points per pound are set for two items which, beginning September 5, will be restored to rationing—dried prunes, and dried raisins and currants.

The adjustments have been dictated by a study of the latest figures on consumer buying trends, and on new pack production during the current canning season, according to OPA. In the main body of processed foods, these figures have been in reasonably satisfactory balance. However, point values have been raised in items where the outgoing movement has been too rapid in relation to present stocks and the size of new packs. In cases where either consumer buying has been relatively light or the supply picture has brightened, point values have been lowered. An example of improvement in the civilian supply is in dried beans, peas, and lentils, on which point values have been sharply reduced, it was stated.

Principal changes in the new table, and the reasons for them, are summarized below.

In the canned or bottled group, fruits have been moving into consumption at too rapid a rate, particularly canned cranberries or cranberry sauce, peaches, apples, and pears, OPA rationing officials asserted. New packs of these items are running below the figures for a year ago.

In the vegetable division, the pressure of buying has not been particularly severe upon stocks except in the case of canned and bottled beans (baked beans, soaked dry beans, pork and beans, etc.), and in pumpkin or squash, in which items point values are being raised. In other bean items—fresh shelled, green or wax, and fresh soy beans—it has been possible to reduce

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Descriptive Labeling Required For Sausage at Wholesale

The labeling requirements of the regulation controlling sausage prices at wholesale have been revised by the Office of Price Administration so that the labels will describe more fully to the public the ingredients in the various sausage items offered for sale. This action, taken through Amendment No. 7 to Maximum Price Regulation No. 389, withdraws the labeling by symbols and requires in its place fully descriptive labels.

The essential requirement is that the ingredients be stated by the manufacturer on the label in the order of their predominance in the sausage. The label must appear on each pound and one-half of frankfurters or pork and breakfast sausage, and on each piece of bologna or any other similarly formed sausage, or pork or breakfast sausage stuffed in artificial casings or cloth bags. A similar label must be placed upon the carton, or container, in which sausage is packed.

Canner Tendered Post as Chief Of Processed Foods Pricing

At the request of Jean Carroll, recently appointed director of the Food Price Division in the Office of Price Administration, a committee of canners met with him on August 31 to discuss the price policies and program of the OPA as they affect the canning industry, and the problems resulting from legislative requirements as to the employment of personnel experienced in business. The conference was one of a series in which the Food Price Division is consulting the various branches of the food industry and trade on these subjects.

During the conference, names of various persons who are qualified to serve as chief of the pricing section on processed foods were suggested to Mr. Carroll, and it is understood that the position has been tendered to Carl N. Lovegren, who has had long experience in the canning industry and trade, and who until a few months ago was president of the Hunt Bros. Packing Company at San Francisco, Calif.

U. S. Standard for Concentrated Orange Juice Is Issued by WFA

Establishes Requirements for Ascorbic, Anhydrous Citric Acid and Recoverable Oil

A draft of United States Standard for Grades of Concentrated Orange Juice was issued by the War Food Administration on August 30, although the standards were made effective August 16. They establish ascorbic acid, anhydrous citric acid, and recoverable oil requirements for U. S. Fancy (Grade A) and U. S. Standard (Grade C) grades in the following language:

U. S. Grade A or U. S. Fancy canned concentrated orange juice contains *per degree Brix*—

Not less than 0.031 milligram per gram of Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C);

Not less than 0.067 per cent nor more than 0.133 per cent acid, calculated as anhydrous citric acid; and

Not more than 0.003 milliliter of recoverable oil per 100 grams of concentrate.

The reconstituted juice possesses a bright, typical color; is practically free from defects; possesses a fine, distinct, normal reconstituted canned concentrated orange juice flavor; and scores not less than 85 points when scored in accordance with the scoring system outlined herein.

U. S. Grade C or U. S. Standard canned concentrated orange juice contains *per degree Brix*—

Not less than 0.02 milligram per gram of Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C);

Not less than 0.062 per cent nor more than 0.15 per cent acid, calculated as anhydrous citric acid; and

Not more than 0.005 milliliter recoverable oil per 100 grams of concentrate.

The definition of canned concentrated orange juice is worded in the official Standard, as follows:

"* * * The product prepared by freezing or evaporating unfermented juice obtained from the properly matured fresh fruit of the orange tree (*citrus sinensis*), which fruit has first been properly washed; is packed without the addition of sugar, acids, or preservatives, and is sufficiently processed by heat to assure preservation of the product in hermetically sealed containers."

TRADE PACT WITH ICELAND

Duties on U. S. Fish Imports Reduced; Iceland Grants Concessions On Fruit Juice, Pulp

The United States and Iceland on August 27 signed a reciprocal trade agreement at Reykjavik, the thirty-second to be concluded under the authority of the Trade Agreements Act. It has an initial term of three years, and enters into force 30 days after completion of formalities by Iceland, proclamation by the President of the United States, and exchange of appropriate instruments.

The agreement provides for tariff concessions by Iceland on United States products entering under 24 tariff items. Among these are the following, of interest to canners:

Article	Rate of duty: Before agreement	Rate of duty: After agreement
Pulp and juices of fruit (unsweetened)	7 aurar per gross kilo—30% ad val.	7 aurar per gross kilo—8% ad val.
Juices of fruits or plant parts (sweetened)	7 aurar per gross kilo—50% ad val.	7 aurar per gross kilo—10% ad val.

Among Icelandic products benefiting from reduction in United States import charges are:

Item	Rate of duty: Before agreement	Rate of duty: After agreement
Fish, dried and unsalted:		
Cod, haddock, hake, pollock, and cusk.	2½¢ per lb.	1¼¢ per lb.
Other, including shark fins.	1¼¢ per lb.	¼¢ per lb.
Smoked pollock, canned in oil.	30% ad val.	15% ad val.
Canned fish, not in oil (except salmon, anchovies, and herring in 1 lb. cans).	25% ad val.	12½% ad val.
Pickled or salted herring except in small kegs.	½¢ per lb. (reduced from 1¢ per lb. in agreements with United Kingdom and Canada).	¼¢ per lb.
Smoked or kippered fish, except salmon, herring, cod, and related species.	25% ad val.	12½% ad val.
Caviar (except sturgeon) and other roe, not boiled.	20¢ per lb.	10¢ per lb.
Fish roe, boiled	30% ad val.	15% ad val.
Fish scrap and fish meal:		
For feed	Free	Bound free
For fertiliser	Bound free (in agreements with United Kingdom and with Mexico).	Bound free

New payroll savings drives to up allotments are under way all over America. In your war plant or other business, be a leader in signing up for a higher percentage for War Bonds. All true Americans are patriotic. Americans who know how to make the most of their war wages so as to allow a maximum for War Bonds are making their patriotism count the most for victory.

Changes in Sugar Zones

Because of insufficient supplies of sugar at the refinery at Sugarland, Texas, to meet the demands of its present territory, the Office of Price Administration on September 2 permitted Louisiana refiners to ship sugar into points in Texas within Zone 9, ordinarily served by the Texas refinery.

This zoning change also provides that Zone 9A, including most of the State of Oklahoma, and formerly served in part by the Texas refinery, will henceforth receive sugar exclusively from the West. This action was taken in Amendment One to the Eighth Revised Zoning Order Number One, to Rationing Order 3, and became effective September 2.

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point values. Reductions also are shown in beets, carrots, and tomatoes.

In the frozen foods classification, six items are raised in point value—all fruits or berries, green or wax beans and lima beans, cut corn, peas and spinach.

In the dried foods group, several important changes are noted. A ration value of four points per pound is given to dried prunes, and to raisins and currants, on their restoration to rationing. The new point value of 4 compares with a point value of 20 when dried prunes and raisins were first rationed beginning March 1, 1943. The factor used in determining allotments of industrial users, such as bakers, confectioners, and other establishments, will be 4.6 for both dried prunes, and raisins and currants, covering the period from September 5 through December 31.

In the dried beans, peas and lentils group, a sharp point reduction is possible because of increased production and a corresponding increase in the allocation to civilians. Currently priced at four points per pound, the group is reduced to two points a pound for dried beans, and one point a pound for dried peas and lentils. Dried soy beans and black-eye peas are ration-free.

Carried on the August table at eight points per quart, the point value of home processed foods on the new table is stated at "8 points per quart, or point value of the item shown elsewhere on the chart, whichever is lower." This is in keeping with an amendment to the processed foods rationing order, Ration Order 13, issued September 3 and effective September 8, which provides that a home processed food shall have a point value of 8 points a quart (or 4 points a pound) or a lower point value if a comparable item is carried at less than 8 points a quart in the table of point values of commercially processed foods.

Point values of items in which changes have been made, compared with the August table, are given for the most generally used container sizes below:

Canned or Bottled:	Container size	Point Value New	Point Value Old
Apples (includes crabapples)	No. 2	10	7
Cranberries or sauce (whole, strained, or jellied)	16-oz.	10	8
Peaches	No. 2½	27	23
Pears	No. 2½	21	15
Beans, fresh shelled (include Black-eye peas, etc.)	No. 2	10	11
Beans, green or wax	No. 2	10	11
Beans, fresh soy	No. 2	5	11
Beans, all canned and bottled varieties (includes baked beans, soaked dry beans, soaked dry peas, pork and beans, kidney beans, lentils, etc.)	No. 2	18	15
Beets (includes pickled)	No. 2	8	10
Carrots	No. 2	8	10
Pumpkin or squash	No. 2½	21	19
Tomatoes	No. 2½	21	24
Tomato sauce in combination package with cheese	8-oz.	4	3
Frozen:			
All fruits or berries	1-lb.	12	9
Beans, green or wax (all styles)	12-oz.	9	6
Beans, lima (all varieties)	12-oz.	9	6
Corn, cut	10-oz.	9	6
Peas	12-oz.	9	6
Spinach	14-oz.	12	9
Dried:			
Prunes	1-lb.	4	a
Raisins and currants	1-lb.	4	a
Beans, peas and lentils (exclude soy beans and black-eye peas):			
Beans	1-lb.	2	4
Peas and lentils	1-lb.	1	4
Meats, in Tin or Glass:			
Tongue—lamb, pork or veal	.....	5	7
Slab bacon	.....	5	6.5
Sliced bacon	.....	6	8

a Not rationed in period starting August 1, 1943.

California Sardine Report

Estimated figures on tonnage of sardines delivered to California processing plants and cases of sardines packed during the current season to August 21, inclusive, as reported by the California Sardine Products Institute, are as follow:

TONNAGE:	Tons
San Francisco Bay	7,423.00
Monterey	10,221.75
Total	17,644.75

PACK: Can sizes:	Cases
1-lb. ovals	63,465
1-lb. talls	41,386
½-lb. fillets	8,492
¼-lb. round 96's	4,349
5-oz. 100's	1,567
Miscellaneous	3,317
Total	122,576

Canned Mussels Well Received

Canned sea mussels, a product placed on the market for the first time this year by seafood packers of Maine and Massachusetts, have been received so well by the public that the industry is planning a much larger pack next season, it has been reported to Coordinator of Fisheries Harold L. Ickes.

Although only 13 canneries—12 in Maine and one in Massachusetts—packed mussels during the 1942-43 season, their output was 40,000 cases, representing well over a million pounds of food. With additional packers entering this new industry next season, and all plants anticipating a larger pack, a considerably greater supply of mussels should be available for the U. S. public next winter, Ickes said.

Cider Vinegar Packers Must Issue Price Increase Notice

The regulation under which sellers of cider vinegar other than wholesalers and retailers establish their maximum prices was amended September 2, by the Office of Price Administration, to include a provision for formal notification to wholesalers and retailers of any price increases allowed to their suppliers under the regulation.

This step was necessary because, under fixed mark-up regulations, wholesalers and retailers can recalculate their maximum prices only when formal notification of such allowed increases is provided by processors or other suppliers.

The action was taken through Amendment No. 1 to Maximum Price Regulation No. 428. The amendment becomes effective September 7.

Hearing on Shrimp Labor

Pursuant to petitions received from operators of raw shrimp houses, the Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor will hold a public hearing, September 17 in Washington, to take testimony for the purpose of determining whether children between the ages of 14 and 16 may be employed, and at what occupations, in raw shrimp houses.

Bulletins on Corn Borer

Rapid increase and spread of the European corn borer, described as among the most threatening pests of the corn plant that have invaded this country, has stimulated the interest of many canners in available control measures for this insect.

Members who wish to keep up to date on farm clean-up methods and other cultural practices to reduce the number of borers may wish to obtain copies of two publications, one entitled "The European Corn Borer: Its Present Status and Methods of Control," Farmers Bulletin No. 1548, which may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. for 10 cents. The other publication is Circular 555, entitled "Corn Borer Situation 1943," published by the Illinois College of Agriculture at Urbana. Copies of the latter publication may be obtained upon request directed to that institution.

Alaska Salmon Pack Report

The following figures on the Alaska salmon pack, prepared and reported by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, present the detail of the pack by districts and species through August 21, 1943:

DISTRICT	Coho Cases	Chum Cases	Pink Cases	King Cases	Red Cases	Total Cases
Bristol Bay*	167	37,073	.....	6,033	1,275,081	1,318,354
Alaska Peninsula:						
North side*	.....	3,680	54	56	39,330	43,120
South side*	6,049	64,898	112,901	1,904	173,715	359,467
Chignik	482	4,228	3,201	249	95,168	103,328
Kodiak	4,649	41,107	548,790	250	109,406	704,202
Cook Inlet*	23,546	26,254	58,903	31,311	102,864	242,878
Prince Wm. Sound	7,849	30,326	512,362	108	12,377	563,022
Copper River	116	.....	.....	4,890	56,790	61,796
Yakutat	181	.....	1,463	215	9,935	11,794
Icy Strait	3,145	63,965	60,104	124	11,392	138,730
Western	5,650	159,486	116,169	55	15,923	297,283
Eastern	5,342	103,092	84,647	799	7,163	201,043
Wrangell	9,002	63,568	65,527	54	11,239	149,390
South Prince of Wales Island	9,727	33,928	43,350	15	4,625	91,645
Southern	22,044	125,723	331,326	299	22,301	501,693
Total through August 21, 1943	97,949	757,328	1,938,797	46,362	1,947,309	4,787,745
Total through August 22, 1942	203,090	800,271	2,457,546	40,773	896,013	4,397,693

*Final.

FROZEN SHRIMP CEILINGS

Dollars and Cents Prices Established For Both Veined and Unveined

Maximum prices for processors of frozen peeled shrimp, both veined and unveined, were established August 31 by the Office of Price Administration at levels in line with maximum prices already established for other items of frozen shrimp.

The prices, expressed in cents-per-pound, were listed in Amendment No. 4 to Maximum Price Regulation No. 364. The amendment, which became effective September 4, was issued at this time to serve as a temporary stopgap until the prices can be restated in Revised MPR No. 364, which is to be issued shortly, it was stated.

Text of Amendment 4 follows:

Maximum Price Regulation 364 is amended in the following respects:

1. In section 14, Schedule No. 54, Shrimp and prawn, is amended by adding Item Nos. 8 to 21 inclusive to read as follows:

Item No.	Style of processing	Size	Base price per lb.
8	Peeled	12 to 17 count	.45
9	Peeled and veined	12 to 17 count	.49½
10	Peeled	18 to 24 count	.39
11	Peeled and veined	18 to 24 count	.43
12	Peeled	25 to 30 count	.34
13	Peeled and veined	25 to 30 count	.37½
14	Peeled	31 to 36 count	.30½
15	Peeled and veined	31 to 36 count	.34
16	Peeled	37 to 50 count	.28
17	Peeled and veined	37 to 50 count	.31½
18	Peeled	51 to 78 count	.26½
19	Peeled and veined	51 to 78 count	.29½
20	Peeled	79 and over	.24½
21	Peeled and veined	79 and over	.27½

2. Footnote 1 is added at the end of the table of prices in section 14 to read as follows:

[1] The maximum prices listed for this seafood apply only when packed in 5 lb. and 10 lb. boxes. When packed in 12 oz. or 1 lb. packages add 1¼¢ per lb. to the listed prices.

Statistics on Use of Jamaican, Mexican and Bahamian Workers

Marvin Jones, War Food Administrator, reports that 60,628 workers from Mexico, Jamaica and the Bahama Islands have come to this country to date for agricultural employment. Of the total, 47,102 came from Mexico, 8,828 from Jamaica, and 4,698 from the Bahamas.

Mexican Nationals have been employed in agriculture in 12 Western States. The crops in which they have worked include truck vegetables, citrus and other fruits, sugar beets, guayule rubber, long staple cotton and hops. On July 31 there were 22,075 Mexicans in California, 1,936 in Oregon, 1,704 in Washington, 1,257 in Montana, 984 in Arizona, 624 in Colorado, 559 in Idaho, 549 in Nevada, 285 in Wyoming, 284 in Nebraska, 91 in South Dakota, and 67 in Kansas.

Jamaicans and Bahamians have been employed largely in East Coast States and in the Middle West. Some of the principal crops which they have helped harvest are citrus fruit, beans, peas, sweet corn, potatoes, tomatoes, asparagus, sugar beets, and cigar tobacco. On July 31, the Jamaicans were distributed as follows: 1,942 in New Jersey, 1,524 in New York, 1,046 in Wisconsin, 1,000 in Connecticut, 747 in Michigan, 638 in Illinois, 560 in Idaho, 357 in Minnesota, 314 in Iowa, 309 in Pennsylvania, 186 in Indiana, and 181 in Ohio. The distribution of Bahamian workers on July 31 was: 1,785 in Maryland, 754 in North Carolina, 699 in Virginia, 393 in New York, 301 in Tennessee, 200 in Florida, 105 in Delaware, and 13 in South Carolina.

Utah Tomato Studies

Studies being made in Utah for the control of tomato diseases are discussed in the biennial report of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Logan, Bulletin 306, just published. In connection with control of bacterial canker, it is evident, according to this report, that tomato seed extracted following fruit pulp fermentation or treated with acetic acid after extraction should be dried as rapidly as possible.

Breeding experiments for resistance to curly top indicate that some progress is being made in combining resistance with commercial quality, this report states. Study also is being made of the possibilities of controlling curly top by modification in cultural practices, closer spacing of plants, direct seeding in the field, varying times of planting and irrigation, and the effect of nutrition.

Grape Picking Wage Rates Set

The War Food Administrator has issued a public notice establishing maximum wage rates to be paid to pickers of grapes for sun dried raisins in eight California counties—Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin.

The rates per tray specified in the notice vary according to the varieties of grapes and the average number of bearing vines per acre. They are approximately the prevailing wages being paid for such work, but are about one-third higher than last year's rates. Rates last year in the counties mentioned ranged from 3 to 5½ cents per tray.

Washington State Publications Cover Fruit, Vegetable Problems

A recent publication from the Washington State Department of Agriculture summarizes and evaluates what is at present known of the fruit tree virus disease problem in Washington, and covers two parts. The first describes the symptoms of each disease and evaluates the problem it presents, and is based upon investigations and data obtained largely in the State of Washington during the past ten years. The second part deals specifically with the results of the stone fruit virus survey conducted during the summer of 1942 by the Washington State Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with other agencies.

Mimeographed circulars entitled, respectively, "Growing Sweet Corn in Western Washington," "Commercial Spinach Culture in Western Washington," and "Growing Tomatoes in the Puget Sound Region," have been published by the Western Washington Experiment Station at Puyallup. They contain information on locations, adapted varieties, and cultural practices.

According to the latest annual report of the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station located at Pullman, wilt and root rot of asparagus has been found in all the asparagus-growing areas in the State. An all-over average of approximately 5 per cent of the asparagus plants in the State have been found infected, it is stated. Control experiments with the application of various fertilizers as well as manipulation of the soil pH have not resulted in the reduction of the disease in the field. Recent evidence suggests that the selection or production of resistant species or strains offer the best possibilities for control of the disease, the report states.

Boneless Beef for the Army

Because the Army is using more and more boneless beef, frozen in containers, as a substitute for carcass beef as a field meat ration, the War Food Administration moved August 30 to have large quantities of beef boned for the armed forces.

Federally inspected slaughterers are allowed to sell the carcass beef they are required to set aside for government purchase, directly to boning concerns holding contracts with the Army. The boners, after processing the meat, will deliver it to Army procurement officers. This procedure is established under Amendment 1 to Director Food Distribution Order 75.2. Such slaughterers may credit quantities sold to boners against the amount to be set aside for government use. The amendment is retroactive, covering sales between federally inspected slaughtering establishments and boning concerns that have taken place since August 15.

In making transactions of this type, slaughterers will be required to obtain certificates from the boning concern showing the amount of beef involved and the contract number the processor holds with the Army.

Sugar Is Allotted for Canned Sweet Potatoes, Frozen Pears

Sugar for canning sweet potatoes was made available August 30 by the Office of Price Administration.

Until recently, canning of this product was prohibited by the War Production Board to conserve limited supplies of tin for canning only the most essential foods. However, a recent change in the tin allocation order now permits sweet potatoes to be canned, and OPA accordingly has made the necessary sugar available for this purpose.

Sugar will be provided at the rate of two pounds for each case of 24 No. 2 cans of sweet potatoes packed. Registered industrial users of sugar may apply to their local rationing boards for an allowance of sugar for this purpose. Persons who are not registered as industrial users may apply to their boards for registration.

This change in the sugar rationing order (Amendment 85 to RO3, effective August 28) also provides that sugar for freezing pears in containers of 30 pounds or more will be allowed at the rate of one pound of sugar for each three pounds of fruit.

Since fruit purees are ordinarily used only for industrial or institutional purposes, the order further states that these products may be packed only in containers of 30 pounds or more.

Instructions on CCC Form 3

Canners are advised by Food Distribution Administration officials to use the new set-aside percentages for sweet corn and tomato puree in filling out Form 3 for preliminary settlement under the Commodity Credit Corporation's purchase and resale program.

The official instructions that explain how Form 3 should be executed list the set-aside percentages contained in FDO 22.4. Since Amendment No. 1 changed the percentages for sweet corn and tomato puree, the instructions are out of date for these two items.

FDA officials also point out that acknowledgements of receipt of Form 3 applications are not made until verification of certification on all commodities covered by the application has been received from the State War Board.

Canners likewise are reminded by FDA that an original of Form 3 is to be returned along with three copies. Failure of canners to send in the original and three copies delays payment until the required copies are received.

All checks for payments under the purchase and resale program will be mailed from the Federal Reserve Bank at Richmond.

Grower Prices Established For Dried Prunes and Raisins

Maximum prices for the 1943 crop of dried prunes and raisins, expressed in dollars per ton, have been established by the Office of Price Administration at the level of the support prices announced some time ago by the War Food Administration.

These represent an increase of 35 per cent over 1942 maximum prices in the case of prunes, and 40 per cent in the case of raisins. Maximum prices in 1942 were also the support prices of the Department of Agriculture.

The maximum prices for prunes numbering 80 to the pound are $170 a ton for California Three District, as compared with $125 a ton in 1942; $165 a ton for California Outside and Northwest, as compared with respective maximums of $120 and $115 in 1942.

The maximum prices for raisins are $155 a ton for Natural Thompson seedless, as compared with $110 in 1942; $150 a ton for Natural Sultana, as compared with $105 in 1942; $165 a ton for Natural Muscat, as compared with $110 in 1942.

These prices were established in Maximum Price Regulation No. 461, which became effective August 28. The 1942 crop of prunes was priced under MPR 242.

New Form for Pyrethrum

Consumers of pyrethrum must now make application to their suppliers on Form WPB-2945 in place of the former PD-600. The War Production Board announced this change of procedure through a revision of Order M-179 on August 30.

FOR SALE

(Name furnished on request)

280-S—Two 150-h.p. horizontal return tubular boilers located in western New York State.

WFA Requests that California Raisin Grapes Be Sun-dried

The War Food Administration has directed that California raisin-variety grapes must be sun-dried rather than dehydrated by the use of artificial heat, unless specifically authorized by the Director of Food Distribution, in order to free dehydration facilities for use in processing those grapes which cannot be sun-dried.

The action, taken in an amendment to Food Distribution Order 17, which became effective September 2, is necessary to insure efficient use of dehydrator capacity and obtain the maximum raisin production required this year, it was stated. Dehydration plants may contract to dehydrate raisin-variety grapes only after specific authorization by the Director of Food Distribution.

Another provision in the amendment places the administration of the order under the FDA Regional Director at San Francisco, to facilitate procedure.

The order requires all raisin-variety grapes (Thompson Seedless, Muscat and Sultana) and Zante Currant grapes in 8 California counties to be converted into raisins and dried currants. The counties are Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Merced, Madera, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin.

Change in RO 13 Will Affect Dried Prunes and Raisins

Because of the restoration of dried and dehydrated prunes and raisins to rationing reported in the item on new ration point values elsewhere in this issue of the INFORMATION LETTER, several changes are being made in Ration Order No. 13, which are of interest to the trade. The more important of these changes are summarized as follow:

1. Dried prunes and raisins are added to the list of processed foods, in Section 21.1, effective September 5.

2. A person may receive an allotment as an industrial user based on his prior industrial use, not only of dried prunes and raisins, but of any type of dried or dehydrated fruit. Those fruits, except dried prunes and raisins, are no longer available in any appreciable quantity for civilian use. It is felt, OPA explained, that to the extent a person used them for industrial purposes during the base period, he should now be allowed to use other processed foods, such as dried prunes or raisins, in their place.

3. The first person regularly engaged in distributing dried prunes or raisins who acquires them from a dehydrator or grower of those fruits, is a processor of dried prunes or raisins if more than 50 per cent of his transfers of those fruits are to persons other than consumers. This applies only if he is not himself a dehydrator or grower of dried prunes or raisins.

4. The amendment to be issued shortly will explain which transfers of dried prunes or raisins require the transfer of points, and which transfers may be point free. It also will show what records should be kept of transactions.

5. A provision under Section 10.2 specifies that neither a dehydrator, nor processor of dried prunes or raisins may exchange those fruits for other processed foods.

6. The amendment will require the filing of periodic reports on OPA Form R-1305 by packers of dried prunes or raisins, and of other dried or dehydrated fruits, the former under Section 3.2 and the latter under Section 16.7.

Onion Shippers Permit Plan

Onion shippers in 12 western and northern States are now required to obtain permits before making any shipment of dry onions in excess of 100 pounds except for nearby storage, according to the War Food Administration. The States are California, Washington, Oregon, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Colorado, Minnesota, North Dakota, Michigan, Indiana, and New York, in which approximately 90 per cent of the late onion crop is produced. The requirement became effective August 28. This control over shipments is contained in Food Distribution Order 77.

Producers and shippers may move onions into common storage not equipped with refrigeration facilities and within a range of 25 miles where the onions were grown, if they did so last year, without obtaining a shipping permit. Any other shipments, by truck or rail, must be authorized by a specific permit, obtained from the regional offices of FDA.

Canned Milk Statistics

Production of evaporated milk (case goods) for July is estimated at 335,500,000 pounds by the Department of Agriculture. This is seven per cent larger than the figure for July, 1942, and constitutes a new July record. However, total production for the first seven months of 1943, estimated at 2,053,790,000 pounds, represents a decrease of 17 per cent from the production of the corresponding period of 1942.

August 1, 1943, stocks of evaporated milk (case goods), estimated at 400,397,000 pounds, exceeded stocks of August 1, 1942 by 38 per cent.

July production of plain condensed whole milk (bulk goods) was 11,842,000 pounds, a decrease of 23 per cent from the output a year earlier; of plain condensed skimmed milk (bulk goods), 31,141,000 pounds—13 per cent smaller; and of sweetened condensed whole milk (bulk goods), 3,833,000 pounds—25 per cent smaller. Production of sweetened condensed skim milk (bulk goods) in July totalled 28,336,000, an increase of 25 per cent over July, 1942. Production of plain condensed (bulk goods), both whole and skimmed, and of sweetened condensed whole (bulk goods) for the first seven months of this year was smaller than that of the same period a year ago, but, at 171,842,000 pounds, the production of sweetened condensed skimmed milk (bulk goods) was 19 per cent larger.

Stocks of condensed milk (case goods), on August 1 totalled 10,949,000 pounds, an increase of 63 per cent over the stocks of last year.

USDA Issues Pea Bulletins

Ways of meeting some of the specialized problems that arise in growing peas for canning and freezing are discussed in a new Farmers Bulletin (No. 1920), just published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and entitled "Growing Peas for Canning and Freezing". Crop rotations, desirable soil characteristics, varieties generally used, conservation of the seed supply, control of diseases and insects, yields, costs and payment, disposal of vines and their value as manure or silage are among the subjects covered.

Seed and vine characteristics, pod size and shape, foliage color, and earliness of a number of varieties of peas are described in another circular published by USDA (No. 676) entitled "A Key to Pea Varieties". This publication is designed to be of assistance to seedsmen, seed growers, official inspectors, and canners in identifying pea varieties.

Five sixths of the 60,000,000 Americans working on the home front or wearing the uniform of their country own War Bonds, says President Roosevelt. Only by upping your war bond buying through payroll savings can you join the invasion of Hitler's Europe.

Southern Workers Aid Harvest

The War Food Administration announces that more than 3,500 domestic agricultural workers have been transported to the Midwest and spring wheat area since August 1, under the Government's farm labor program, in an effort to help meet emergency harvest needs and save vitally-important war crops.

During the past few weeks, the WFA said, 1,650 workers were moved from Arkansas to North Dakota; 1,200 from Oklahoma to Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota; 650 from Mississippi to North Dakota; and 200 from Alabama to Ohio.

Most of these workers are helping with the wheat harvest in the Spring Wheat Area. However, those who went to Ohio are doing general farm work. Under an agreement between the Extension Service directors of the States involved, the workers will be returned to their home States in time to help with the cotton harvest, which gets under way in September.

J. S. Johnson Named for Food Fights for Freedom Campaign

J. Sidney Johnson, manager of the merchandising division of National Biscuit Company, in New York, has been appointed to handle trade contacts in the Food Fights for Freedom campaign being conducted by the War Food Administration in cooperation with the War Advertising Council, to invite the cooperation of the housewives of America—to "produce, to conserve, to share and to play square with America's number one weapon, food."

Mr. Johnson's assignment will include contacting independent retail grocers, voluntary and cooperative groups and corporate chains to secure their cooperation in furthering the program. It is expected that he will appear before meetings of food distributors to present the details of this program. Mr. Johnson will work with Vernon D. Beatty, Director of Advertising for WFA.

Pineapple Crop in Mexico

Pineapple growers in the Loma Bonita region of Mexico report that 1943 has been their best year, according to the Department of Commerce. Up to the end of July, 6,300 metric tons of pineapples had been exported to the United States, 2,000 tons sent to domestic markets, 1,500 tons to canners in the area and probably another 1,500 tons will be sold to domestic markets before the season ends. Losses, expected to be unusually large, are estimated at less than 5 per cent.

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